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FROM: Jason S. Feldmar
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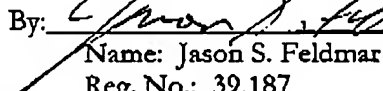
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Title of Document Transmitted:	TRANSMITTAL DOCUMENTS (2) AND BRIEF OF APPELLANTS
Applicant:	Craig Storms et al.
Serial No.:	10/038,071
Filed:	January 4, 2002
Group Art Unit:	2164
Title:	LIGHTWEIGHT SELF-CONTAINED SELF-EXPANDING PRODUCT DATA PACKAGE
Our Ref. No.:	G&C 30566.203-US-01

Please charge all fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0494 of Gates & Cooper LLP.

By: 
Name: Jason S. Feldmar
Reg. No.: 39,187

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Due Date: July 5, 2008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Craig Storms et al.	Examiner:	Jacob F. Betit
Serial No.:	10/038,071	Group Art Unit:	2164
Filed:	January 4, 2002	Docket:	G&C 30566.203-US-01
Title:	LIGHTWEIGHT SELF-CONTAINED SELF-EXPANDING PRODUCT DATA PACKAGE		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via facsimile transmission to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 7, 2008.By: 
Name: Kathleen KrochkoCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

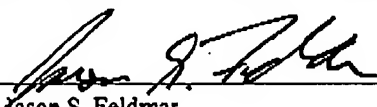
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- ☒ Brief of Appellant(s).
- ☒ Charge the fee difference for the Brief of Appellant(s) in the amount of \$10.00 to the Deposit Account.

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Please charge all fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0494 of Gates & Cooper LLP. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

Customer Number 55895
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By: 
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G&C 30566.203-US-01

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JUL 07 2008

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Customer Number 55895GATES & COOPER LLPHoward Hughes Center
6701 Center Drive West, Suite 1050
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Name: Jason S. Feldmar

Reg. No.: 39,187

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JUL 07 2008

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In re Application of:)	
)	
Inventor: Craig Storms et al.)	Examiner: Jacob F. Betit
)	
Serial No.: 10/038,071)	Group Art Unit: 2164
)	
Filed: January 4, 2002)	Appeal No.: _____
)	
Title: LIGHTWEIGHT SELF-CONTAINED)	
SELF-EXPANDING PRODUCT DATA)	
<u>PACKAGE</u>)	

BRIEF OF APPELLANTS**MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §41.37, Appellants hereby submit the Appellants' Brief on Appeal from the final rejection in the above-identified application, as set forth in the Office Action dated February 4, 2008.

Multiple prior Appeal Briefs were filed in this case without any final decision by the Appeals Board. Accordingly, please charge the amount of \$10 (i.e., the difference between the previously paid Appeal Brief fee of \$500 and the current fee of \$510) to Deposit Account No. 50-0494 of Gates & Cooper LLP.

Also, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0494 of Gates & Cooper LLP.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Autodesk, Inc., the assignee of the present application.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences for the above-referenced patent application.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-89 remain pending in the application.

Claims 1-11, 25-37, 51-63, and 77-89 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 12-24, 38-50, and 64-76 stand rejected.

The rejections of claims 12-24, 38-50, and 64-76 are being appealed.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments to the claims have been made subsequent to the Office Action.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Independent claims 12, 38, and 64 are generally directed to the generation of a self-expanding data package for product data (see paragraph [0006]-page 3, lines 14-20, FIG. 7). Specifically, values in a set of constant lists are generated and stored in the data package (see paragraphs [0030]-[0032]- page 8, line 20-page 9, line 14, [0036]-page 10, lines 11-15, and [0061]-page 21, lines 2-8, FIG. 7 - 700 and 702). In addition, calculations (that operate on the values) are generated and stored in the data package (see paragraphs [0030]-[0032]- page 8, line 20-page 9, line 14, [0037]-page 10, line 18-page 11, line 4, and [0061]-page 21, lines 2-8, FIG. 7 - 704).

Once the values and calculations are stored in the data package, the data package is transmitted to a second computer system that expands the data package (see paragraphs [0065]-page 21, line 24-page 22, line 5 and [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20). The claim limitations provide that the package is expanded into a table having rows (see paragraph [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20, FIG. 7 - 706). In addition, the expansion is performed by combining each value with other parameters (i.e.,

in the data package, FIG. 7 - 708) and performing the calculations (from the data package) on the values (see paragraph [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20; FIG. 7 - 708). As claimed, each expanded row of the table represents a product and comprises one of the combinations (see paragraphs [0006]-page 3, lines 14-20, [0007]-page 3, line 21-page 4, line 3, [0026]-page 7, line 22-page 8, line 4, [0057]-page 19, line 23-page 20, line 4, [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2; FIG. 7 - 708). Further, the calculations eliminate one or more rows from the table (see paragraphs [0007]-page 3, line 21-page 4, line 3, [0064]-page 21, lines 19-22, [0066]-page 22, lines 6-15, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2; FIG. 7 - 708). Accordingly, all of the information for expanding the data package is contained within the data package itself. In other words, the values for the set of constant lists and the calculations performed on the values are both generated and then stored in the data package.

In addition, Applicants note that the claims explicitly provide for and recite product data and that each row represents a product (see paragraphs [0026]-page 7, line 22-page 8, line 4, [0057]-page 19, line 23-page 20, line 4, [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2; FIG. 7 - 708). Accordingly, the invention is specific to product data. The invention solves a specific problem with publishing and consuming product data by packaging up all part properties for a related family of parts in a compact form, with a mechanism defined for assembling the individual properties into normalized tables. The invention affects both the publishers and consumers of this part data in a way that they must understand.

The charts below provide support for each claim limitation.

CLAIM LIMITATION	SPECIFICATION/DRAWING SUPPORT
12. A method for generating product data in a self-expanding data package in a computer system comprising:	[0006]-page 3, lines 14-20, FIG. 7
generating one or more values in a set of one or more constant lists and storing said one or more values in the self-expanding data package, wherein the self-expanding data	[0030]-[0032]- page 8, line 20-page 9, line 14, [0036]-page 10, lines 11-15, and [0061]-page 21, lines 2-8, FIG. 7 - 700, 702, and 708; [0026]-page 7, line 22-page 8, line 4, [0057]-page 19, line 23-

package is for product data;	page 20, line 4, [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2
generating one or more calculations that operate on one or more values in the set of one or more constant lists and storing said one or more calculations in the self-expanding data package;	[0030]-[0032]- page 8, line 20-page 9, line 14, [0037]-page 10, line 18-page 11, line 4, and [0061]-page 21, lines 2-8, FIG. 7 - 704
transmitting the self-expanding data package to a second computer system that expands the self-expanding data package into an expanded table having expanded table rows,	[0065]-page 21, line 24-page 22, line 5 and [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20; FIG. 7-708
wherein each expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination and each combination is generated by combining every value in each constant list with any combination of values from remaining parameters and performing the one or more calculations on the one or more values,	[0067]-page 22, lines 16-20; FIG. 7 - 708; [0006]-page 3, lines 14-20, [0007]-page 3, line 21-page 4, line 3, [0026]-page 7, line 22-page 8, line 4, [0057]-page 19, line 23-page 20, line 4, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2;
wherein the one or more calculations eliminate one more expanded table rows.	[0007]-page 3, line 21-page 4, line 3, [0064]-page 21, lines 19-22, [0066]-page 22, lines 6-15, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2; FIG. 7 - 708
38. An apparatus for generating product data in a self-expanding data package in a computer system comprising:	[0006]-page 3, lines 14-20, FIG. 7; [0022]- page 6, line 20-page 7, line 2.
(a) a computer system having a memory and a data storage device coupled thereto;	[0018]-[0021]-Page 5, line 16-page 6, line 19; FIG. 2 -204 and 214.

(b) one or more computer programs, performed by the computer system, for generating a self-expanding data package and storing the self-expanding data package in the memory, wherein the self-expanding data package is for product data and comprises:	[0018]-[0021]-Page 5, line 16-page 6, line 19; FIG. 2 -204 and 214; [0030]-[0032]- page 8, line 20-page 9, line 14, [0036]-page 10, lines 11-15, and [0061]-page 21, lines 2-8, FIG. 7 - 700, 702, and 708; [0026]-page 7, line 22-page 8, line 4, [0057]-page 19, line 23-page 20, line 4, [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2
(i) one or more values in a set of one or more constant lists; and	[0030]-[0032]- page 8, line 20-page 9, line 14, [0036]-page 10, lines 11-15, and [0061]-page 21, lines 2-8, FIG. 7 - 700, 702, and 708; [0026]-page 7, line 22-page 8, line 4, [0057]-page 19, line 23-page 20, line 4, [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2
(ii) one or more calculations that operate on one or more values in the set of one or more constant lists;	[0030]-[0032]- page 8, line 20-page 9, line 14, [0037]-page 10, line 18-page 11, line 4, and [0061]-page 21, lines 2-8, FIG. 7 - 704
wherein the self-expanding data package is transmitted to a second computer system that expands the self-expanding data package into an expanded table having expanded table rows,	[0065]-page 21, line 24-page 22, line 5 and [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20; FIG. 7-708
wherein each expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination and each combination is generated by combining every value in each constant list with any combination of values from remaining parameters and performing the one or more calculations on the one or more values,	[0067]-page 22, lines 16-20; FIG. 7 - 708; [0006]-page 3, lines 14-20, [0007]-page 3, line 21-page 4, line 3, [0026]-page 7, line 22-page 8, line 4, [0057]-page 19, line 23-page 20, line 4, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2;
wherein the one or more calculations	[0007]-page 3, line 21-page 4, line 3, [0064]-page

eliminate one more expanded table rows.	21, lines 19-22, [0066]-page 22, lines 6-15, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2; FIG. 7 - 708
64. An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for generating product data in a self-expanding data package in a computer system, the method comprising:	[0006]-page 3, lines 14-20, FIG. 7; [0022]- page 6, line 20-page 7, line 2.
generating, in the self-expanding data package, one or more values in a set of one or more constant lists, wherein the self-expanding data package is for product data;	[0030]-[0032]- page 8, line 20-page 9, line 14, [0036]-page 10, lines 11-15, and [0061]-page 21, lines 2-8, FIG. 7 - 700, 702, and 708; [0026]-page 7, line 22-page 8, line 4, [0057]-page 19, line 23-page 20, line 4, [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2
generating, in the self-expanding data package, one or more calculations that operate on one or more values in the set of one or more constant lists;	[0030]-[0032]- page 8, line 20-page 9, line 14, [0037]-page 10, line 18-page 11, line 4, and [0061]-page 21, lines 2-8, FIG. 7 - 704
wherein the self-expanding data package is transmitted to a second computer system that expands the self-expanding data package into an expanded table having expanded table rows,	[0065]-page 21, line 24-page 22, line 5 and [0067]-page 22, lines 16-20; FIG. 7-708
wherein each expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination and each combination is generated by combining every value in each constant list with any combination	[0067]-page 22, lines 16-20; FIG. 7 - 708; [0006]-page 3, lines 14-20, [0007]-page 3, line 21-page 4, line 3, [0026]-page 7, line 22-page 8, line 4, [0057]-page 19, line 23-page 20, line 4, and

of values from remaining parameters and performing the one or more calculations on the one or more values,	[0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2;
wherein the one or more calculations eliminate one more expanded table rows.	[0007]-page 3, line 21-page 4, line 3, [0064]-page 21, lines 19-22, [0066]-page 22, lines 6-15, and [0068]-page 22, line 21-page 23, line 2; FIG. 7 - 708

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Whether claims 12-16, 18-24, 38-42, 44-50, 64-68, and 70-76 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0107761 to Kark (Kark).

Whether claims 17, 43, and 69 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kark.

VII. ARGUMENTS

A. Claims 12-16, 18-24, 38-42, 44-50, 64-68, and 70-76 are Patentable under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Kark

1. Independent Claims 12, 38, and 64 Are Patentable Over The Prior Art

Applicants traverse the rejections set forth in the final Office Action for one or more of the following reasons:

- (1) Kark fails to teach, disclose or suggest a self-expanding data package;
- (2) Kark fails to teach, disclose or suggest single package that contains both a set of constant lists and calculations that are performed on combinations of the constant lists;
- (3) Kark fails to teach, disclose or suggest such calculations that eliminate rows/combinations of such constant lists; and
- (4) Kark fails to teach, disclose or suggest transmitting a package that has constant lists and calculations to a second computer where it is expanded into a table.

Applicants note that Kark is directed to improving channel sales support in electronic commerce. In Kark, catalogs are maintained at different levels (see Kark [0039]). New catalogs can

be created for particular users (see [0052]). However, the overriding principle of Kark lies in that a master catalog exists in a database and subsets of the master catalog can be created for users (see [0038]). However, what is clearly lacking from Kark is any concept of a self-expanding data package. In this regard, there is a complete lack of even the remote capability to transmit a single package that contains both values in constant lists and calculations. Further, Kark lacks the ability for a second computer to receive and expand the self-expanding package into an expanded table having rows based on combinations of the values in the different constant lists and calculations that eliminate some of the rows. Nowhere in Kark is such a possibility or teaching even remotely hinted at. Accordingly, not only has the Examiner failed to establish a prima facie case of lack of obviousness, but there isn't even a remote possibility for Kark to anticipate the present invention under the novelty standard of 35 U.S.C. §102.

Further details of the rejection and the lack of teaching are set forth below.

In rejecting the claims, the Office Action first asserts that paragraphs 0085 and 0092-0095 teach the limitation of generating the values in a set of one or more constant lists and storing the values in the self expanding data package. Paragraph [0085] provides:

[0085] A catalog typically includes a plurality of products. The defined products are entered as records in the PRODUCT table 504. As above, the NAME field provides an owner defined name for the product defined by each record. The PRODUCTID is a unique value used as a key for the table and the CATALOGID links each record to the particular catalog in which it is included. The LINKFROM field in this table indicates another product, if any, from which this record represents a sub-product or sub-component. Such linking of products permits recursive definition of the products to provide a richer definition of products and related sub-products. For example, "TABLE SAW" may be the name of a product and "SAW BLADE" may be the name of a related sub-product. The LINKFROM field of a highest level product (one which is not a sub-product of another product) indicates the CATEGORYID value of the category, if any, to which it is linked, or, if not included in a category, the LINKFROM field for such a product indicates a NULL or other invalid value to so indicate a top level product.

Paragraphs [0092]-[0095] provide:

[0092] Other tables shown in FIG. 5 further enhance the functionality and richness of the catalog product information. In particular, both products and categories may have attributes associated therewith. Examples of attributes for a product might be color or size. Attributes may be similarly applied to a category. For example, a clothing category might be "FABRIC" and the value of that attribute might be "COTTON." Such an attribute applied to a category implies all products within that category share that same attribute unless an individual product overrides that attribute value. A clothing product may similarly have such a FABRIC attribute and attribute value of COTTON. A product might also have a different FABRIC attribute value though it also is shown to be included in a category with the COTTON attribute value. In such a case, the product attribute value overrides the corresponding attribute value that may be associated with a category in which the product is included.

[0093] The ATTR table 510 contains records with attributes defined for a related product or category. An ATTRID field provides a unique ID value for each attribute record and is used as a key in the table. The CATALOGID field, as above, is a key in the table and relates all records in the table to a particular catalog. A LINKFROM field indicates the PRODUCTID or CATEGORYID to which the attribute record is related. A NAME field provides a user-defined (owner-defined) name to the attribute. The VISIBILITY field is a test vehicle as described above with respect to other tables. The CATALOGID and LINKFROM fields may be used as indices on the table. ISREQUIRED, ISKEY and STYLE are fields that help define the usage of the attribute, i.e., whether it is required, etc.

[0094] Attribute records in the table have one or more values associated therewith. If the values are simply defined, the HASVAL field of the record indicates that the VALUETYPE and VALUE fields of the record define the possible values. The VALUETYPE field indicates whether the attribute has a single value, a list of enumerated values, or a more complex set of possible ranges or domains of possible values. If VALUETYPE indicates that the attribute record includes a single possible value for the attribute, then the permitted value is stored in the VALUE field. If VALUETYPE indicates that the attribute has a list of possible values, entries in the VALUES table 516 are linked to the attribute record to specify the list of possible values. Specifically, the LINKFROM field of the VALUES table 516 entries corresponding to the attribute record have the ATTRID value to indicate the linkage. As with other tables discussed above, the VALUES table 516 entries include a CATALOGID field as a key value to associate the records with a particular catalog. The VISIBILITY field of the VALUES table 516 entries is a test vehicle as described above. The VALUE field of each VALUES table 516 entry has one of the list of possible values of the related attribute record.

[0095] The ATTR table 510 records may alternatively indicate that the record has a more complex range of values that are permitted. The HASVALDOMAIN field of the attribute record indicates that records in the VALUEDOMAIN table 514 define the range(s) of permissible values of the attribute record. The VALUEDOMAIN table 514 records include a CATALOGID field as a key to associate the records of the table with a particular catalog and a VISIBILITY field as defined above. The LINKFROM field of the VALUEDOMAIN table 514 records link back to the ATTRID value of the related attribute record. The SELECTION, INTERVAL and OPT fields of the VALUEDOMAIN table 514 records define the complex range of attribute values permissible for the related attributes record.

As can clearly be seen, nowhere in such text is there even a remote capability for a self-expanding data package. In this regard, nothing in the text or remainder of Kark is anything expanded in any way, shape, or form. Further, the ability to have a self-expanding package is not hinted at, alluded to, or anticipated whatsoever. Instead, paragraph [0085] describes a product table having various fields and link fields that point to other products related to the current product. Such a link merely refers to other products and does not provide for a package whatsoever. Instead, it is merely a table. Similarly paragraphs [0092]-[0095] provide for various attributes that may exist for a product. Records in a table may be related to a particular catalog. In addition, link fields point to possible values for a given field. However, nowhere is such information put into a package as claimed. Further, nowhere is such information placed into a data package that is self expanding as claimed.

The next claim element is that of generating calculations that are placed in the same self-expanding data package. To teach this claim element, the Office Action relies on paragraphs [0052], [0055], [0092]-[0095], and [0098]. However, such paragraphs do not provide for any such calculations. Instead, paragraph [0052] merely provides the ability to filter catalog information that is presented to a user through the use of a "stoplist data structure". Firstly, such a stoplist is not equivalent to calculations that operate on values in the constant lists. Secondly, Kark's stoplist is not stored in the same package as that of the values referred to in the prior paragraph. Instead, the stoplist is merely associated with the database (see paragraph [0055]). In fact, paragraph [0098] which is relied upon by the Examiner explicitly provides that the stoplist is a table that is defined in a database and is not necessarily associated with a particular catalog. A user accessing a catalog would invoke inspection of a particular stoplist table to filter products not intended to be viewed. Thus, rather than teaching the storage of the stoplist in the same package as the values (as presently claimed), Kark explicitly teaches away from such storage by stating that the stoplist is a separate table stored in a database and the table is accessed by one desiring to view a catalog. Thus, Kark teaches away from this claim limitation.

The next claim element provides for transmitting the self-expanding package to a second computer that expands the package into a table with each row as a combination of every value in each constant list and calculations performed on the values and the calculations eliminate one or more rows of the table. In rejecting this claim element, the Office Action merely relies on paragraphs [0038], [0052], [0055], [0092]-[0095], [0098], and [0105]. Upon examination of such paragraphs it may clearly be seen that Kark does not even remotely suggest such a claim limitation nor the claim as a whole.

Paragraph [0038] is the summary of the invention and describes how there are different levels of a catalog with each having a customized catalog version. A master catalog is also provided. Paragraph [0052], [0055], [0092]-[0095], and [0098] are described above. Paragraph [0105] describes the ability to duplicate a catalog's contents into a new catalog wherein all of the content of a parent database to a new child database followed by copying all of the fields of all tables.

As can be seen, such paragraphs do not provide for the ability to expand a package that contains specific information into a particular formatted table as claimed. Instead, Kark merely

describes the ability to duplicate tables using various databases. Nowhere is there even a remote concept of a second computer receiving a self-expanding package that contains values in constant lists and calculations, where the second computer then expands the package into a table by combining all of the values and performing calculations to eliminate certain rows of the table. One unique advantage of such an invention lies in the ability to send a compact package with just the values and a set of calculations over a connection where it is then expanded. Such an advantage is reflected in the title of the invention "Lightweight Self-Contained Self-Expanding Product Data Package". The presently claimed limitations serve to provide such advantages. However, Kark does not even recognize the problem of sending large catalogs of information and instead actually teaches the use of multiple full catalogs - thereby remaining consistent with all of the prior art described in the present patent application.

Further, Kark actually teaches away from the claimed self-expanding data package and the claimed expansion process. Thus, Kark fails to even remotely suggest multiple aspects of the presently claimed invention. Accordingly, it is impossible for Kark to anticipate the present invention under the novelty standards of 35 U.S.C. §102.

Again, the presently claimed invention sets forth and establishes specific limitations for what is included in the self-expanding data package as well as how the package is expanded and used. Kark completely fails to teach, disclose, or suggest both claim aspects. Kark further fails to recognize the problem and the solution of the presently claimed invention.

In view of the above, Appellants respectfully request reversal of the rejections.

2. Dependent Claims 13, 39, and 65 Are Patentable Over the Cited Art

Dependent claims 13, 39, and 65 provide for storing a basic table in the same self-expanding data package. Further, the expanded table is further expanded by combining every value in each constant list with each row in the basic table.

In rejecting these claims, the Office Action relies on paragraphs [0085] and [0092]-[0095]. Appellants note that as stated above, nowhere does Kark even remotely allude to a package whatsoever that contains the values and calculations. Further, the ability to store a table in the same self expanding package that is then used to create an expanded table is completely absent from Kark.

Again, the claims provide for storing multiple items in a single package that is then expanded by a second computer into another table. Nowhere is such a concept remotely hinted at anywhere in Kark.

3. Dependent Claims 14, 40, and 66 Are Patentable Over the Cited Art

Dependent claims 14, 40, and 66 provide that calculations are applied to test the validity of the expanded table rows and only valid rows are maintained in the table.

The Office Action rejects such claim limitations based on paragraphs 0052 and 0098. Again, paragraph 0052 merely describes that a catalog can be filtered using a stoplist data structure. Paragraph 0098 describes the use of the stoplist table. However, nowhere is there any mention in either paragraph of whether or how a row can be valid or not. Further, nowhere is there any test of validity of such a row in a stoplist. Instead, a stoplist is merely a table that defines products that are not intended to be presented to users depending on factors such as the portal used to access the catalog. Whether a row item is valid or the ability to test the validity of a row item is entirely lacking from Kark.

In view of the above, Appellants respectfully request reversal of the rejection of claims 14, 40, and 66.

4. Dependent Claims 15, 41, and 67 are Patentable Over the Cited Art

Dependent claims 15, 41, and 67 provide that the calculations of claims 14, 40, and 66 are used to perform a precursor conditional test that is used to test the validity of the expanded table rows.

In rejecting these claims, the Action again relies on paragraphs 0052 and 0098. However, such text does not describe or allude to a precursor conditional test that is performed on a row of a table. Again, the validity of a row and the ability to perform any test, precursor or otherwise is nowhere to be found in Kark.

In view of the above, Appellants respectfully request reversal of the rejection of claims 15, 41, and 67.

5. Dependent Claims 16, 42, and 68 are Not Separately Argued

6. Dependent Claims 18, 44 and 70 are Patentable Over the Cited Art

Claims 18, 44, and 70 provide that the calculations eliminate duplicate expanded table rows.

In rejecting these claims, the final Office Action merely refers to paragraph [0107] which provides:

[0107] FIG. 25 is a flowchart describing a manual process for updating information in a catalog from its parent catalog. Those skilled in the art will recognize, as noted above, that such update processing may be automated on a periodic basis rather than performed as shown here as a manual process. Such automation and periodic operation may be implemented using well-known scripting and task scheduling features common in most computer operating systems.

As can be clearly seen, nowhere is there even a remote reference in such text to eliminating a duplicate row whatsoever. Such text merely describes a manual process for updating information in a catalog. Fig. 25 also fails to teach, describe, or suggest any form of eliminating duplicate table rows. Appellants further submit that since Kark's catalogs are not created using values and constants as presently claimed, duplicate rows would not exist in Kark and therefore, there would be no need to eliminate them as set forth in these claims.

In view of the above, Appellants respectfully request reversal of the rejection of claims 18, 44, and 70.

7. Dependent Claims 19, 45 and 71 are Not Separately Argued

8. Dependent Claims 20, 46 and 72 are Not Separately Argued

9. Dependent Claims 21, 47 and 73 Are Not Separate Argued

10. Dependent Claims 22, 48 and 74 Are Not Separate Argued

11. Dependent Claims 23, 49 and 75 Are Not Separately Argued

12. Dependent Claims 24, 50 and 76 Are Patentable Over the Cited Art

Dependent claims 24, 50, and 76 provide that the logic for expanding the data into the expanded table is fully defined within the data package and the data.

In rejecting these claims, the final Office Action merely refers to Kark paragraphs 0052, 0055, 0092-0095, and 0098. Appellants note that the logic for actually expanding the data must be contained and defined in the package (as claimed). Kark fails to provide any sort of self-expanding package whatsoever. Further, nowhere in Kark is there any capability to place logic for expanding a package into the package itself. In fact, since Kark fails to even remotely allude to a package whatsoever, it would be impossible for Kark to include logic used to expand such a package into a table as claimed.

Appellants note that due to the total lack of similarity between Kark and the present invention, it appears difficult to recite any elements of Kark that even remotely refer to the purpose, subject matter, problem, or solution of the presently claimed invention. Instead, Kark describes a structure that is entirely different and based on different concepts than that of the presently claimed invention. Not only does Kark lack the logic used to expand the claimed package, but the placement of such logic in the package itself is nowhere to be found in Kark. Instead, Kark describes a database with different tables and links - such a description is not and cannot be equivalent to the claimed logic.

In view of the above, Appellants respectfully request reversal of the rejection of claims 24, 50, and 76.

B. Claims 17, 43, and 69 are Not Separately Argued

VIII. CONCLUSION

In light of the above arguments, Appellants respectfully submit that the cited references do not anticipate nor render obvious the claimed invention. More specifically, Appellants' claims recite novel physical features which patentably distinguish over any and all references under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103. As a result, a decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences reversing the Examiner and directing allowance of the pending claims in the subject application is respectfully solicited.

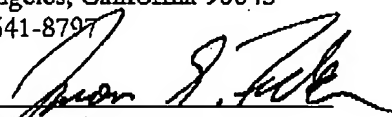
Respectfully submitted,

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CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. (WITHDRAWN) A self-expanding product data package for product data comprising:
 - basic table data having one or more table rows, wherein each row represents a partial definition of a product;
 - a set of one or more constant lists having one or more values; and
 - one or more row validation calculations;wherein use of the set of constant lists and row validation calculations provides a mechanism for compact data storage, wherein the self-expanding data package is capable of expansion into an expanded table having expanded table rows wherein each expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination such that:
 - for each constant list of values, every list member is combined with all other basic table rows and additional list members to produce every possible combination; and
 - the row validation calculations are applied to test validity of the expanded table rows, and only those expanded table rows that are valid are maintained in the expanded table.
2. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 further comprising a calculation utilized to perform a precursor conditional test that is used in one or more row validation calculations.
3. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 further comprising a calculation utilized to provide additional data used in the expanded table
4. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 wherein the self-expanding data package comprises product data for use in a computer-aided design application.
5. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 wherein the one or more of the row validation calculations provide for eliminating duplicate expanded table rows.

6. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 wherein the basic table data, set of one or more constant lists, and one or more row validation calculations are specified using extensible markup language (XML).

7. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 wherein the row validation calculations are selected through a graphical user interface.

8. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 wherein the self-expanding data package is transmitted across a network.

9. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 wherein one or more row validation calculations comprise one or more filters that limit results displayed from the expanded table rows.

10. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 wherein an editor provides an ability to directly edit the self-expanding data package.

11. (WITHDRAWN) The self-expanding data package of claim 1 wherein logic for expanding the data package into the expanded table is fully defined within the data package and the data.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method for generating product data in a self-expanding data package in a computer system comprising:

generating one or more values in a set of one or more constant lists and storing said one or more values in the self-expanding data package, wherein the self-expanding data package is for product data;

generating one or more calculations that operate on one or more values in the set of one or more constant lists and storing said one or more calculations in the self-expanding data package;

transmitting the self-expanding data package to a second computer system that expands the self-expanding data package into an expanded table having expanded table rows, wherein each

expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination and each combination is generated by combining every value in each constant list with any combination of values from remaining parameters and performing the one or more calculations on the one or more values, wherein the one or more calculations eliminate one more expanded table rows.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 12 further comprising, generating one or more basic table data having one or more table rows, and storing said one or more basic table data in the self expanding data package, wherein the self-expanding data package is further expanded by combining every value in each constant list with each basic table row.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 12, wherein one or more calculations are applied to test validity of the expanded table rows, and only those expanded table rows that are valid are maintained in the expanded table.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 14, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to perform a precursor conditional test that is used to test validity of the expanded table rows.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 12, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to provide additional data used in the expanded table.

17. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 12, wherein the self-expanding data package comprises product data for use in a computer-aided design application.

18. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 12, wherein one or more calculations provide for eliminating duplicate expanded table rows.

19. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 12, wherein the self-expanding data package is written in extensible markup language (XML).

20. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 12, wherein one or more calculations are selected through a graphical user interface.

21. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 12, wherein the self-expanding data package is transmitted across a network.

22. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 12, wherein one or more calculations comprise one or more filters that limit results displayed from the expanded table rows.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 12, wherein an editor is used to directly edit the self-expanding data package.

24. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 12, wherein logic for expanding the data package into the expanded table is fully defined within the data package and the data.

25. (WITHDRAWN) A method for utilizing product data in a self-expanding data package in a computer system comprising:

receiving a self-expanding data package comprising one or more values in a set of one or more constant lists and one or more calculations that operate on one or more values in the set of one or more constant lists, wherein the self-expanding data package is for product data;

expanding the self-expanding data package into an expanded table having expanded table rows, wherein each expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination and each combination is generated by combining every value in each constant list with any combination of values from remaining parameters and performing the one or more calculations on the one or more values, wherein the one or more calculations eliminate one more expanded table rows.

26. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the self-expanding data package further comprises one or more basic table data having one or more table rows; and

the expanding further comprises combining every value in each constant list with each basic table row.

27. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein:

one or more calculations test validity of the expanded table rows; and

only those expanded table rows that are valid are maintained in the expanded table.

28. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 27, wherein one or more calculations perform a precursor conditional test that is used to test validity of the expanded table rows.

29. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein one or more calculations provide additional data used in the expanded table

30. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein the self-expanding data package comprises product data for use in a computer-aided design application.

31. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein one or more calculations eliminate duplicate rows or otherwise apply business rules to eliminate unwanted rows in the resulting expanded table.

32. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein the self-expanding data package is written in extensible markup language (XML).

33. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein one or more calculations are selected through a graphical user interface.

34. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein the self-expanding data package is received from across a network.

35. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein one or more calculations comprise one or more filters that limit results displayed from the expanded table rows.

36. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein an editor provides an ability to directly edit the self-expanding data package.

37. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein logic for expanding the data package into the expanded table is fully defined within the data package and the data.

38. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus for generating product data in a self-expanding data package in a computer system comprising:

- (a) a computer system having a memory and a data storage device coupled thereto;
- (b) one or more computer programs, performed by the computer system, for generating a self-expanding data package and storing the self-expanding data package in the memory, wherein the self-expanding data package is for product data and comprises:

- (i) one or more values in a set of one or more constant lists; and
- (ii) one or more calculations that operate on one or more values in the set of one or more constant lists;

wherein the self-expanding data package is transmitted to a second computer system that expands the self-expanding data package into an expanded table having expanded table rows, wherein each expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination and each combination is generated by combining every value in each constant list with any combination of values from remaining parameters and performing the one or more calculations on the one or more values, wherein the one or more calculations eliminate one more expanded table rows.

39. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein:
the self-expanding data package further comprises one or more basic table data having one or more table rows; and

the self-expanding data package is further expanded by combining every value in each constant list with each basic table row.

40. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein one or more calculations are applied to test validity of the expanded table rows, and only those expanded table rows that are valid are maintained in the expanded table.

41. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to perform a precursor conditional test that can be used to test validity of the expanded table rows.

42. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to provide additional data used in the expanded table

43. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the self-expanding data package comprises product data for use in a computer-aided design application.

44. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein one or more calculations provide for eliminating duplicate expanded table rows.

45. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the self-expanding data package is written in extensible markup language (XML).

46. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 38, further comprising a graphical user interface displayed by the computer system for selecting the one or more calculations.

47. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the one or more computer programs are further configured to transmit the self-expanding data package across a network.

48. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein one or more calculations comprise one or more filters that limit results displayed from the expanded table rows.

49. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein one or more of the computer programs comprise an editor that is used to directly edit the self-expanding data package.

50. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein logic for expanding the data package into the expanded table is fully defined within the data package and the data.

51. (WITHDRAWN) An apparatus for utilizing product data in a self-expanding data package in a computer system comprising:

- (a) a computer system having a memory and a data storage device coupled thereto;
- (b) one or more computer programs, performed by the computer system, for receiving a self-expanding data package stored in the memory, wherein the self-expanding data package is for product data and the self-expanding data package comprises :

- (i) one or more values in a set of one or more constant lists; and
 - (ii) one or more calculations that operate on one or more values in the set of one or more constant lists; and

- (c) one or more computer programs, performed by the computer system, for expanding the self-expanding data package into an expanded table having expanded table rows, wherein each expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination and each combination is generated by combining every value in each constant list with any combination of values from remaining parameters and performing the one or more calculations on the one or more values, wherein the one or more calculations eliminate one more expanded table rows.

52. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein:
the self-expanding data package further comprises basic table data having one or more table rows; and
the computer program is further configured to expand the self-expanding data package by combining every value in each constant list with each basic table row.

53. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein one or more calculations are applied to test validity of the expanded table rows, and only those expanded table rows that are valid are maintained in the expanded table.

54. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to perform a precursor conditional test that is used to test validity of the expanded table rows.

55. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to provide additional data used in the expanded table

56. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the self-expanding data package comprises product data for use in a computer-aided design application.

57. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein one or more calculations provide for eliminating duplicate expanded table rows.

58. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the self-expanding data package is written in extensible markup language (XML).

59. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, further comprising a graphical user interface displayed by the computer system for selecting the one or more calculations.

60. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the self-expanding data package is received from across a network.

61. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein one or more calculations comprise one or more filters that limit results displayed from the expanded table rows.

62. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, further comprising an editor performed by the computer system that provides an ability to directly edit the self-expanding data package.

63. (WITHDRAWN) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein logic for expanding the data package into the expanded table is fully defined within the data package and the data.

64. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for generating product data in a self-expanding data package in a computer system, the method comprising:

generating, in the self-expanding data package, one or more values in a set of one or more constant lists, wherein the self-expanding data package is for product data;

generating, in the self-expanding data package, one or more calculations that operate on one or more values in the set of one or more constant lists;

wherein the self-expanding data package is transmitted to a second computer system that expands the self-expanding data package into an expanded table having expanded table rows, wherein each expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination and each combination is generated by combining every value in each constant list with any combination of values from remaining parameters and performing the one or more calculations on the one or more values, wherein the one or more calculations eliminate one more expanded table rows.

65. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 64, the method further comprising, generating, in the self-expanding data package, basic table data having one or more table rows, wherein the self-expanding data package is further expanded by combining every value in each constant list with each basic table row.

66. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein one or more calculations are applied to test a validity of the expanded table rows, and only those expanded table rows that are valid are maintained in the expanded table.

67. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 66, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to perform a precursor conditional test that is used to test validity of the expanded table rows.

68. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to provide additional data used in the expanded table

69. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein the self-expanding data package comprises product data for use in a computer-aided design application.

70. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein one or more calculations eliminate duplicate expanded table rows.

71. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein the self-expanding data package is written in extensible markup language (XML).

72. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein one or more calculations are selected through a graphical user interface.

73. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein the method further comprises transmitting the self-expanding data package across a network.

74. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein one or more calculations comprise one or more filters that limit results displayed from the expanded table rows.

75. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein an editor is used to directly edit the self-expanding data package.

76. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 64, wherein logic for expanding the data package into the expanded table is fully defined within the data package and the data.

77. (WITHDRAWN) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for utilizing product data in a self-expanding data package in a computer system, the method comprising:

(a) receiving a self-expanding data package wherein the self-expanding data package is for product data and the self-expanding data package comprises:

- (i) one or more values in a set of one or more constant lists; and
- (ii) one or more calculations that operate on one or more values in the set of one or more constant lists; and

(b) expanding the self-expanding data package into an expanded table having expanded table rows, wherein each expanded table row represents a product and comprises a combination and each combination is generated by combining every value in each constant list with any combination of values from remaining parameters and performing the one or more calculations on the one or more values, wherein the one or more calculations eliminate one more expanded table rows.

78. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein:
the self-expanding data package further comprises basic table data having one or more table rows; and

the self-expanding data package is further expanded by combining every value in each constant list with each basic table row.

79. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein one or more calculations are applied to test validity of the expanded table rows, and only those expanded table rows that are valid are maintained in the expanded table.

80. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 79, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to perform a precursor conditional test that is used to test validity of the expanded table rows.

81. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein one or more calculations are utilized to provide additional data used in the expanded table

82. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein the self-expanding data package comprises product data for use in a computer-aided design application.

83. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein one or more calculations provide for eliminating duplicate expanded table rows.

84. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein the self-expanding data package is written in extensible markup language (XML).

85. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein one or more calculations are selected through a graphical user interface.

86. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein the self-expanding data package is received from across a network.

87. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein one or more calculations comprise one or more filters that limit results displayed from the expanded table rows.

88. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein an editor provides an ability to directly edit the self-expanding data package.

89. (WITHDRAWN) The article of manufacture of claim 77, wherein logic for expanding the data package into the expanded table is fully defined within the data package and the data.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None.